

Coventry Fire District
AFD Board of Directors

August 08, 2007

Meeting of the Coventry Fire District board of directors

Board members in attendance

Gary Cote, Edward Webster, Pat Lefebvre, Shirley Matthews, Domenic Terracciano

Clerk:

Keith Calci

Minutes of the meeting:

7:05 Meeting Started

1. Board of Directors update & discussion

Mr. Cote spoke on setting up the personnel board that will set criteria for the Chiefs position that was approved at the special meeting. One Board member, one union member and one taxpayer at large as a minimum to serve on the board, Mr. Cote questioned if the motion specified what union member. Mr. Cote's idea was to invite Captain St. Jean to serve on the board, Mr. Cote stated that the union president told him he could not invite a union member without the unions permission and that the president was reserving that spot for himself. Mr. Terracciano stated that he thought it was within union protocol that before a union member does something outside there line of duty they have to get permission from there union and/or president. Mrs. Matthews thought it should be a conflict of interest for the president to sit on the board. Mr. Calci suggested that to have Capt. St. Jean and the union president both sit on the board if the union allows. Mr. Cote stated that he has sought legal opinion and the resolution leaves the decision up to the board of directors.

Mr. Cote suggested that we set up a board of 6-8 people, two outsiders, them being Chief Brown and Chief Seltzer, two union firefighters, two board members, and two taxpayers. Mr. Cote doesn't want to sit on board but has a suggestion for a taxpayer, Mr. Jim Beckman.

Mr. Cote asked for a vote from the board for two union reps to sit on the board. Mr. Webster, Mr. Terracciano, Mrs. Matthews, voted yea, Mr. Cote Mrs. Lefebvre voted no, vote passed 3-2.

Mr. Cote asked for a vote for Mr. Beckman, Mr. Cote, Mr. Terracciano, Mrs. Matthews, Mr. Webster voted yea, Mrs. Lefebvre voted no, motion passed 4-1.

The board various ideas about the number of people on the board, who they are and what the powers of that board would have, it was noted that the board is there to set up minimum job requirements for Chief and doesn't have power to select the Chief.

Mr. Cote asked the record to show that Mr. Beckman will be on the board, that an invitation to Chief Brown and Chief Seltzer will be made, that two union reps from this department will serve on the board. Mr. Webster and Mr. Terracciano offer themselves to sit on the board, the rest of the board was all in favor. Mr. Cote stated he intends to invite Capt. St. Jean and a second member approved by the union. Mr. Cote suggested that Mr. Calci serve as a taxpayer, Mr. Calci respectfully declined because that would make four union members sitting on

the board.

There was discussion about who to invite as a taxpayer, Mrs. Lefebvre will find one more business taxpayer.

Chief Warren spoke about an incident that happened at the station today. Capt. St. Jean was checking the generator and the battery on it exploded in his face, he is okay. The generator serves the entire building and was in shoddy condition at best, the generator shorted out. It needs replacement, a claim will be submitted to the insurance company tomorrow.

Mr. Cote stated that will also check with the EMA for help because the building can be used as a public shelter.

Chief Warren stated that a new phone system has been installed and paid for by the insurance company.

Mr. Webster asked about a tire problem on the engine, Chief Warren explained the tire was wearing, it needed to be replaced.

Mr. Webster asked about Rescue 1 being out of service, Chief Warren explained that the A/C was not working and it needed an oil change, it went out to Colony for service. Chief Warren will check with the Manufacturer of the Rescue on warranty for the A/C.

Mr. Webster asked about us loaning a truck to Harris, Chief Warren explained that we did loan the truck, it had a radiator issue while being borrowed and the Central Coventry district will be fixing it.

Mrs. Matthews stated she meet with people on mapledale, there are issues of the overgrowth. Chief Warren said Nick Romeo went over to cut the grass and he will check with Sheila Patnode about it.

2. Public comment and discussion

Ken Sprague asked about the air conditioning upstairs. Mr. Cote stated the replacement would be \$18,000, without including the cost of removing the old system. Currently working on other solutions to the problem. Mrs. Matthews stated we still have major problems with the roof, the A/C and the furnace and there is no money. Mr. Cote stated he meet with the tax collector and treasurer, we had \$74,200 in the bank and \$73,800 in outstanding bills, not including payroll.

Mr. Webster asked if there was a problem with the firefighters being paid on time. Mr. Cote stated that he did not authorize the checks to go out until the daytime deposit was made so the checks would all clear, Chief Warren will now pass out the checks.

Chief Warren stated fire alarm work is at a halt, he will check with Senator Blaise if he can get us a bucket truck to do the work, the bucket is not going up.

Mr. Webster asked for an update on the 12 lead monitor fund. Chief Warren has donated \$500 toward the defibrillator fund. Mike Derosa stated there is now \$1750 in the fund, Mr. Cote suggested doing fund raisers.

3. Adjournment

Mr. Terracciano made a motion to adjourn, Mrs. Matthews seconded the motion. Mr. Cote, Mrs. Lefebvre, Mr. Webster were all in favor, meeting adjourned.

Submitted,
Keith Calci
Clerk